

Charge a shilling for shaving and twenty-five cents for hair cutting, the same for cutting and shampooing; but the more unpretending are satisfied with one half of those sums. For honing a razor the charge is a shilling, and there are a few who ask only sixpence. When they are called upon to shave a sick man at his residence their price is a shilling, and for hair cutting two shillings.

The business has been greatly improved within the last ten years, and, as we have shown in another place, the prices have been considerably increased. Shampooing has been adopted during that time as a branch of it, and is now performed by nearly all barbers throughout the city. The word is of eastern origin, and literally means a pressing of the limbs and joints after the body has been washed in a hot bath; but with us it has an entirely different signification. The lotion, or wash which is used in the process of shampooing, or cleansing the head, is made of alkali mixed with other ingredients. Every barber makes his own lotion, and there are very few who do not make their own *eau de Cologne*. The bay water, of which a large quantity is consumed in New York yearly, is procured from the island of St. Thomas, where its manufacture is extensively pursued.

The summer and fall are the barber's favorite seasons, for then his business is better than at any other part of the year. The heat of the weather renders frequent shampooing and bathing more necessary, and the hair is cut oftener. We believe, however, it does not effect shaving, as the growth of the beard is the same at all seasons.

#### MOVEMENTS AMONG THE BARBERS FOR HIGHER PRICES—RATES OF SHAVING—THE THREE CENT AND FOUR CENT MOVEMENT.

There are very few tradesmen who could earn more than the journeyman barbers, if they got enough work to keep them constantly employed, and if they were paid by the number of shaves they shaved. The majority of barbers charge six cents per shave, some four cents and some a shilling; but it is only during certain hours of the day that they are steadily engaged, and their receipts therefore are not so large as might be supposed. A good barber can shave four men in an hour, and do his work well in that time, while some are so tedious that it takes them an hour to perform the same operation on two men. Working steadily, therefore, from six o'clock in the morning till nine at night, the time their shops are kept open, the receipts of one will amount to six dollars and a half a day, and if the other to one half that sum. In this estimate we allow two hours for meals, and we do not include the receipts for hair cutting, shampooing and hair dyeing, all of which form a large item in the profits of the business. Barbers, however, would soon grow rich if their occupation was so profitable, but there are too many engaged in it, and the majority do not make more than a comfortable livelihood. We have spoken of four cents as being the lowest price for shaving; four years ago, however, there was a considerable number who did not charge more than three cents. It may be supposed that the operation could not be well performed for such a trifling remuneration, but they found customers who were content with the manner in which it was done, and they managed to live upon their patronage. The four cent men used their utmost endeavors to persuade them to raise their prices to their standard, and after much exertion they succeeded. A meeting of both parties was held, we believe, some time in the summer of 1850, in Bayard street, and two others took place subsequently before they came to terms. The principal argument used by the advocates of the four cent system was that three cents were too little, that it was easy to get four, and that such low prices had a tendency to degrade the occupation. The three cent men could not resist the force of this argument; they yielded, and ever since they have, with very few exceptions, continued to shave at the rate of four cents a beard.

Last spring the journeyman barbers contemplated a strike for higher wages, and held a meeting for the purpose of inducing their employers to raise the price of shaving from six cents to a shilling. They represented that almost every other trade had succeeded in obtaining an advance, and that the same reasons urged in their favor were equally applicable to the barbers; the high rents and the increased prices of provisions bore with the same weight upon them as it did upon the members of any other occupation, for many of them had families to support. The meeting, however, was attended by such a limited number that they were unable to effect anything, and the project was abandoned till a more favorable opportunity. A few weeks after a ball or party was given, with the view of bringing the barbers into more intimate acquaintance with each other. On this occasion the necessity of a protective and benevolent society was spoken of, and its immediate organization recommended; and about two months after, notices were published in the *HERALD* calling a meeting at the National Hall to take into consideration the state of the trade. This meeting was held at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon—the barbers being engaged every other day of the week. Although the hall was answered by not more than twenty or thirty persons, yet they took immediate steps for the formation of the proposed society. The professed objects of this association were the assistance of its members in time of sickness, and the furtherance of their interests, as well as those of the bosses, who were invited to join it. Another meeting was held about a week ago, at which a constitution and by laws were adopted, and the officers elected, so that the Society may now be regarded as *un fait accompli*.

Fifteen years ago an attempt was made to advance the price of shaving from six cents to a shilling, but it failed from want of unanimity among the members of the trade. We are inclined to think that if all the barbers united in such a movement at present—and we are informed that it is seriously entertained by some—it would have a most injurious effect upon their business. Thousands of men who now patronize them would rather shave their own chins than pay double price to them for doing it, so that they would lose more in custom than they would gain in amount.

BARBERS' SHOPS.

From the four cent shaving shop to the one shilling establishment in Broadway, there is an innumerable variety of barbers' shops. The magnificent one which was fitted up some time ago in the St. Nicholas, cost over ten thousand dollars for the decorations and furniture. The cups are of silver, the brushes of the same material, the chairs of rosewood, each worth one hundred dollars, and the ceiling is frescoed in the highest style of art. English barbers never dreamed of such magnificence. The walls are lined with looking glasses, and the whole place is redolent of the most fragrant perfumes. A stranger to the country would find it difficult to distinguish the journeyman barbers from their customers by their style of dress, and might at first glance easily mistake the latter for the former. This establishment employs at present twenty-four journeyman barbers, and is considered the most extensive in the city. The second and third class shops are more unpretending in their appearance; their chairs are of mahogany, and do not cost more than ten or twenty dollars, while their cups are of china. Barbers' customers may be divided into two classes—the permanent and transitory. The former generally buy or pay for a cup, the price varying from one shilling and sixpence to three shillings, according to the rank of the shop, while the latter must be content with the general shaving cup. Every barber's shop is supplied with two or more daily papers and all the principal Sunday sheets, for the use of their customers while waiting their turn to be shaved. The rule in respect to the order of shaving is, "first come first served," each succeeding one being next in order. In some barber's shops the amount expended for daily and Sunday papers is over fifty dollars a year; but they are afterwards sold in small square pieces, and used in shaving. They are nearly all supplied with different varieties of hair oil, perfumes, hair dyes, hair and clothes brushes, shirt collars, suspenders, etc. Some have umbrellas, while others again lend out opera glasses by the night,

week or month. A large number have also both rooms in connection with them, and during the summer the receipts derived from them are as large as those from shaving and hair cutting.

BARBERS' APPRENTICES.

There is hardly a barber's shop in the city that has not one or more apprentices, in addition to the ordinary assistance required. They are generally a steady class of boys, and make themselves useful in a multiplicity of ways. Thus one time they are engaged in sweeping out the shop and putting it in order, and at another in lathering the chin of a customer preparatory to shaving. They are, in fact, required to do everything in general, and nothing in particular. The length of time for which an apprentice to this business is bound varies from three to four years. A large number, perhaps the majority, are Germans, and some are obtained from the Long Island farms and the House of Refuge. During the term of their apprenticeship they very seldom receive any compensation for their services, except their board; but, at the end of that time, they get forty dollars, or a new suit of clothes. Their work is very light, and they have more leisure hours than the apprentices at any other trade. It is doubtful, however, whether this is profitably employed in self-instruction, for, like most other apprentices, they loiter and trifle away nearly all their spare time.

The number of barbers' apprentices may be fairly computed at five hundred, or about one to each shop. Ten or twelve years ago, they were generally bound at the age of fourteen or fifteen, so that they had to serve six or seven years before the expiration of their apprenticeship. Their masters were not bound to pay them any remuneration during that time, but those who were very liberal allowed them twenty or thirty dollars a year for spending money. In that time, it might be supposed they would learn all the branches of the business; but they too often graduated ignorant of everything about it, except shaving. Now barbers are made in three or four years, which is certainly long enough for them to acquire a perfect knowledge of the trade, and a considerable number are self-taught. A scientific barber, however, is not only conversant with all the mysteries of shaving, but must know how to cut and curl all kinds of hair in the latest and most approved style, dye whiskers, mustaches and imperials, shampoo, and be able to make up his own lotions, hair oils, and nearly all the liquids required in his business. All this an apprentice should also know before he can be considered fit to handle a razor or shears.

#### A WORD OF COUNSEL TO BARBERS.

Those who have been in the habit of visiting different barber's shops, must have observed in the course of their experience the many objectionable customs which are practiced by some. When you put your finger under their manipulations, they suddenly discover that your hair is too long, and inform you that they can cut it superior to any other barber in the city. They would fain persuade you that the length which you have allowed it to attain is injurious to its growth, and that if it is not curtailed it will become quite thin and fall out. If these arguments should not produce the desired effect, and if you are determined on the destruction of your hair, they have immediate recourse to another stratagem, for their resources are unending. Your hair is full of dandruff, and nothing can remove that dreadful disease but their infallible hair restorative, which they can let you have for the small sum of one dollar. Well, you tell him, perhaps, to get rid of his importunities, that you will step in again when you are passing his way, at the same time resolving in your mind that you will never again subject yourself to such a nuisance, if you can avoid it. Some times they succeed in sticking a bottle of their infallible stuff upon you, and the chances are ten to one against you, if you should happen to be from the country, and ignorant of the tricks of the city. No mock auctioneer has more discernment than this description of barbers; they can detect the least greenness of provisions bore with the same weight upon them as it did upon the members of any other occupation, for many of them had families to support. The meeting, however, was attended by such a limited number that they were unable to effect anything, and the project was abandoned till a more favorable opportunity. A few weeks after a ball or party was given, with the view of bringing the barbers into more intimate acquaintance with each other. On this occasion the necessity of a protective and benevolent society was spoken of, and its immediate organization recommended; and about two months after, notices were published in the *HERALD* calling a meeting at the National Hall to take into consideration the state of the trade. This meeting was held at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon—the barbers being engaged every other day of the week. Although the hall was answered by not more than twenty or thirty persons, yet they took immediate steps for the formation of the proposed society. The professed objects of this association were the assistance of its members in time of sickness, and the furtherance of their interests, as well as those of the bosses, who were invited to join it. Another meeting was held about a week ago, at which a constitution and by laws were adopted, and the officers elected, so that the Society may now be regarded as *un fait accompli*.

Well, then, he resumed, "your head certainly wants shampooing, and I have got an excellent preparation for the purpose."

"What do you charge for shampooing?"

"Only twenty-five cents," replied the hopeful barber.

"Well, then, I tell you what I'll do."

"Yes, sir"—barber all blandness and smiles.

"Well, I'll give you twenty-five cents if you'll just let my hair alone."

This was enough—too much—for the courteous barber; his face was wreathed in smiles at the near prospect of his success, but the reverse was too great for him to bear unmoved.

"Oh yes—yes—sir," he stammered out, (the shop shop was full of customers or he would not have felt so bad.) "We don't wish to take money from gentlemen without giving them a fair equivalent."

"Ever since," says our friend, "I have gone into that shop with perfect impunity. While I am there I never hear a word of the infallible hair tonic, shampooing is a forbidden subject, and the original applicant has in truth let his hair alone."

Not so fortunate, or, we should say, so prompt, was another friend under the same circumstances. The barber told him hair tonic, hair oil, and some other things, to the amount of two dollars, but he never went near that shop again. Barbers lose more than they can gain by such mean and contemptible practices, for the customers they get rarely remain with them.

Without professing to know anything about the scientific part of the business, we think we can give the barbers some wholesome advice, which, if followed, will prove to their advantage. In the first place, don't persist, when "lathering," in running your brush into the nose or ears of your customers; the feeling which it produces is unpleasant, particularly to very sensitive and nervous people. In the second place, don't flourish around a man's chin as if it were a bull's hide you were about shaving, and take especial care that you don't shave too close, for if you should happen to "cut," he may not "come again."

We know of a man who went three or four times to one barber, and each time was cut in the same place, the consequences of which were very serious. The sore, which was trifling at first, increased perceptibly every day, and finally assumed the shape of a large lump, which required the most constant and delicate care and treatment to cure. We know it is difficult sometimes for barbers to avoid such accidents—their occupation has a tendency to make them nervous, and on one or two days in the week they are kept so constantly employed—all the time standing—that they feel certain they must be fatigued.

But during the remainder of the week they have plenty of time to recover from the effects of this. There is another thing which they should not neglect—the honing of their razors—for it is most disagreeable to feel the dull steel scraping along your cheek, and hear the clicking noise it makes as it slowly mows its way over the stubble growth of your chin. A capital story is told of a Yankee who was once subjected to the infliction of a dull razor, and who, when asked the usual question, "Does the razor pull easy?" replied that it depended upon whether he was being skinned or shaved. At one time it was fashionable to have one's face spotted with court plaster, but that day has passed, and men have no fancy now for being cut that they may enjoy the privilege of having their faces disfigured. Briefly, therefore, we would say to barbers, "Don't bore your customers beyond endurance with recommendations of your infallible hair oil or restorative; let them find out its valuable properties for themselves. They are also supposed to know best whether their hair wants cutting or shampooing. Keep your razors sharp; don't stick your brush into a man's nose or ears; those are not the proper places for it. Never mind chipping his face, it never looks well after it; and you may be certain when he looks at it in the glass he won't bless you, whatever else he may do."

#### WIG MAKERS AND WIG MAKING.

WHERE DOES ALL THE HAIR COME FROM?

The wig makers of New York are less numerous than those employed at any other branch of the hair business. The number does not exceed 240, and of these about 200 are women, some of whom are more skillful in the business than the men. It is a kind of work that requires neatness and the most assiduous application, but then it has one great advantage—it is more remunerative than the majority of occupations in which females are employed. We do not say this heedlessly, for we know how cruel it is to raise false hopes; but it is a fact, that a good workman can, by eight or ten hours' labor every day, earn five and six dollars a week, and we have heard of one woman who could make eight dollars. As we said, it requires untiring application and neatness, and only those who think they are fully qualified should engage in it. We may state here that we know of a prominent wig maker in this city who is willing to employ several women, on condition that they shall serve a month or six weeks with him in learning the business, and he says after three months practice they can make four and five dollars a week. Of a large number in his employment, there is not one whose weekly wages is less than three dollars and a half, while there are several who can earn five and six dollars. They are allowed to do their work at home, and are paid punctually when it is done. Compared with the shirt sewers, their condition is certainly a most enviable one, and for the sake of those poor creatures who are compelled to eke out a miserable existence with a needle and thread, we wish that every man in the city was bald-headed. But hairless heads are not so numerous as we would desire for their sake, and there is very little prospect of a poll-tax, such as we would like, being established. At present the number of wigs made in New York annually is about 24,000, and their total value is estimated at a quarter of a million of dollars. This gives ten dollars as the average value of each wig, but they vary in price from six to thirty and forty.

The number of shops in which wigs are made and sold is eighteen; of these, however, more than one half employ others to make them at a certain percentage. Many who are called wig makers know little or nothing of the artistic or scientific part of the business, for we are persuaded that there is considerable science and art required in the making of a wig. Of the forty female wig makers, not more than half a dozen at the utmost can "mount a wig"; that is, they cannot fit it on the block, take the required dimensions of the head, or divide the net work into the proper sized sections to make it fit it. The only part of wig making with which they are thoroughly acquainted, is the working of the hair into the net work, which is a particularly tedious process, and straining upon the eyes. Yet it is preferable to needle work, and the labor, we think, is not so severe.

The number of men employed in wig making is about twenty, and their weekly earnings vary from six to twelve dollars, so that we find in this, as well as in other departments of labor, which men and women are employed, the work of the latter is less liberally rewarded than that of the former. They are paid by the piece, and not by the week. Where it can be followed this is the best plan, as it induces to greater exertion, and the development of more mechanical skill and ingenuity. On this account it is superior to the system of employing by the week on settled wages. The number of wigs which an ordinary wig maker can turn out in the year, depends upon the quality and style of the article; it takes a week to make a third quality wig, three days to make one worth fifteen, but a six dollar wig can be made in one day.

Wig making in this city has undergone great improvements within the last thirty years, and may be considered now to have reached the very acme of perfection. It is generally considered the highest department of the hair dressing business. It has but little affinity, however, with shaving, for a real, genuine, out-and-out wig maker never uses a razor, except it may be upon his own face. Indeed, they rather think they are a degree above the barber, and confine themselves almost exclusively to the cutting and dressing of hair, and supplying the bald portion of the community with wigs. At the time of which we speak New York was in a state of woful ignorance regarding the advances which had been made in this very important particular. Our wigs were literally behind the age, and it was impossible to find one that would exactly fit the head of any. We have seen some of these specimens of the antique, and could not help pitying the poor, hairless wretches who were forced to wear them in lieu of better. Fortunately for this afflicted portion of the community, Mr. Clirough, a prominent *peruquier*, in his investigations happened to get possession of a French wig which he found on examination was made in a very different style from the kind then generally worn. The hair was fastened into the net work itself, and in this respect differed from the New York wigs, on which the hair was sewed, having previously been worked into a piece of silk plat about a sixteenth of an inch in width. As may be supposed, our wigs were much heavier than those made in France; besides, we did not understand the proper method of fitting them, and consequently those we made were rather clumsy in shape, and could not be got to sit right upon the head. That which the renowned John Gilpin wore on the day of his eventful race from London to Ware, must have been of the same description, or it would certainly have kept better companionship with his head than with his hat, than to have left the former in such an unprotected condition. It required considerable trouble and labor to find out the manner in which the French wig was made, but after five or six months' close study it was at last discovered, and in the course of a few months after, the important secret was entrusted to a few women and men. For four or five years, Mr. Clirough was the only *peruquier* who understood the art of making the French wig; but one of his hands leaving him, commenced business on his own account, and imparted the secret to others. Now we can compete with either Paris or London in this particular. As these wigs are much dearer, the old style has not been abandoned. It has, however, been considerably improved, and is not much inferior to the French, which are called ventilators. They are sent to every part of the United States, and some have been exported even to the Sandwich Islands. A large number are bought by literary men, whose heads become bald at an earlier period than most men; but it is a rare thing to find a bald head among women, and among the Indians baldness never takes place. A scientific writer on human hair, in a late number of the *London Quarterly Review*, states as a reason for this, that there is a larger

deposit of fat in the female scalp, which allows of a greater circulation in the capillaries of the skin, but we think the chief cause of it may be found in the fact that woman's hair is more exposed to the action of the atmosphere, and it is well known that the Indian never wears any covering on the head, if we except the few feathers and trinkets with which he ornaments his hair. It is said that literary men "read the hair off their heads," and we have no doubt that close application and study produces baldness. We could name several of our most distinguished authors who are as smooth upon the crown as a piece of ivory. Old age certainly produces baldness, but there are a large number who lose their hair long before they have passed the meridian of life. It would require, however, more time than we could devote to the subject to explain the various predisposing causes of baldness; but to such as feel inclined to pursue it further, we would recommend Mr. Canzavie's work on "The Diseases of the Human Hair," which was published in Paris about two years ago.

Wig making is not confined to the full sized *peruquier*, but embraces the *coupé* and false curls. The *coupé* is worn by those who are denuded of only half their hair. The *peruquier*, whose venerable appearance, it might be supposed, would be improved by baldness, not unfrequently wears *coupés*, while ladies of "an uncertain age" endeavor to make mankind believe that they are yet young by concealing their hairless front under a forest of false curls. Compared with the natural growth of the head, the number of hairs in a wig is very small, not exceeding twenty or thirty thousand. The number, we are told, differs greatly in heads of different colors, as may be seen from the following figures, which we find in the number of the *London Quarterly* already referred to:—

No. of Hairs.	No. of Hairs.
In a head of blond hair.....	140,000
" " brown hair.....	109,440
" " black hair.....	102,960
" " red hair.....	88,740

Although, however, there is a great difference in the number, there is little or none in the weight, for some hair is much coarser than others.

The manner in which the hair from which wigs are made is procured, is both curious and interesting. Little do some of our hairless friends imagine that the artificial scalp which covers their barren crowns, is adorned with the luxuriant growth of some buxom French or German peasant girl, or the first tender crop of childhood. Europe has her harvests of hair as well as her harvests of grain, as the stubble heads of thousands of her people bear witness.

A traveler visiting the villages and hamlets of France or Germany cannot fail to observe the closely cut hair of many of the people, and, if any way inquisitive, will be informed that the hair pedlar has paid his annual visit. There are hundreds of these itinerant hair mongers in Europe, who, if they do not live by the wits of other people, certainly live upon the product of their heads. These pedlars set out from Paris, Berlin, Vienna, and other principal cities, at stated times every year, and visit those localities where they are sure of getting the best description of hair. An experienced pedlar is as well acquainted with the quality of the hirsute crops of different parts of that continent, as an ethnologist is with the character of the different races who people it. Sometimes he fills his pack with the most attractive jewelry, with which he intends to dazzle the eyes of the village maidens, not forgetting, however, to follow the advice of *Iago* to *Roderigo*, and "put money in his purse" for those who prefer its solid lustre to the glittering ornaments. The fine, soft, silken locks of childhood are more prized than the hair of a grown person; and a mother with a large family of young children will realize a handsome annuity on their heads. When it has attained the required growth, the scissors are applied, and the head which, but a few minutes before, shone with a golden lustre, is left as bare as a field of wheat after the sickle of the reaper has passed over it. It is laid flat until the pedlar makes his appearance, and then it is sold for as high a price as he is willing to give, or as low as the seller is willing to take. It is not unfrequently happens that a difference arises on the question of its value. On such occasions the peculiar merits of the hair are discussed and canvassed with as much earnestness as if a crown were at stake. The pedlar, however, generally comes off with the hair, and the same scene is enacted, perhaps, a hundred times over in the course of his peregrinations. As yellow, or what the poets call "golden hair," is highly prized, we may imagine that there are many *Jasons* among the hair pedlars. A whole year is often spent in this hair hunt, at the termination of which the pedlars direct their wandering steps towards Leipzig, at which a great fair is held once a year, or to Paris, Vienna, and other principal cities. Here they dispose of their gatherings, consisting of the shorn locks of villages, to another class of men called hair merchants. Brown hair, black hair, yellow hair, fair hair, and every kind even that most unpopular of all, red hair, are brought to this great fair to be sold; tons of it are there offered for sale, some of it perhaps destined to cover the bald pate of aged nobility.

After it comes into the possession of the wig makers it has to undergo various processes of cleansing, before it can be used in wig making. It is first sorted according to its shade and length, then washed, and finally rolled upon small round pieces of wood resembling pipe stems, on which it is allowed to remain from two to twelve months. When it is taken off these "pipes," as they are called, from the pipe of pipe stems having been first used for the purpose, it has a beautiful curl, which it generally retains for months after. All hair used in wigs is curled in this manner, except the long hair from which ladies' wigs are made.

Sometimes the peasantry sell their hair to barbers, who again dispose of it to the pedlars. For one crop of particularly fine hair as much as four and five dollars is paid, but the common price paid is about fifty cents. Cases have been known of the dead having been despoiled of their hair, which is considered by some to be superior to that obtained from the living scalp. As the prisoners in European penitentiaries and jails have their heads shorn at the beginning of their confinement, the pedlars generally visit them on their way, for it matters little to them what the morality of the man may be, so long as his hair is good. The hair of a consumptive person is much sought after, as it is finer and softer than any other except children's.

There are no hair merchants in this country, the hair being imported entirely by dealers, from whom it is purchased by the wig makers. When it is very fine it is sold for two dollars and two dollars and a half an ounce, which is about the weight of the hair on the head of a child three or four years old. Some years ago New York was infested with a peculiar class of thieves, who confined their thefts to the hair of children. When they could prevail upon them, by some little present, to go with them to their place of concealment, they would cut off their hair and then send them home to their astonished parents. A most merciless war was waged upon the heads of the poor children, and many a bright-haired lad, who rose in the morning rejoicing in his waving curls, retired hairless to bed. The thieves, like death, selected the fairest for their victims. They have latterly given up this peculiar line of thieving, however, and taken themselves to some other branch of the profession. Perhaps it didn't pay so well, or perhaps the parents of New York became more vigilant and wary; or again, perhaps they found it more profitable to turn their attention from the locks of youth to the locks of doors. Certain it is, however, that they have left the hair of our children to riot and run wild in uncropped luxuriance, as the heads of the rising generation bear ample evidence.

Wig makers are called upon occasionally to make false mustaches for women! This will no doubt astonish the more delicate and sensitive of the fair sex, but we assure them it is a fact that there are women, and some of them married too, who promenade Broadway in open daylight in men's attire, with

short hair, moustaches, and sometimes an imperial. When dressed in this style, it is almost impossible to detect the deception, so admirably is the moustache and other accessories imitated.

#### LADIES' HAIR DRESSERS.

The dressing of ladies' hair gives constant employment to twenty women and eight men. The women are paid at the rate of five dollars a month, for dressing one lady's hair every morning, or once a day and to earn even this they are required to visit the lady at her residence. Each female hair-dresser makes, on an average, five dollars a week. To the men who are engaged in the business it is very lucrative—so lucrative that one hair-dresser informed us that he would not give his services the whole year round for ten dollars a day. During the ball season which lasts from about the 1st of April, his receipts for hair-dressing alone, were from fifteen to thirty dollars a day; and on one occasion, he made fifty dollars for dressing the hair of three persons. This was a wedding party, consisting of the bride, bridesmaid and bridesroom. The wedding took place at New Haven, but his travelling expenses were not included in his bill, and were paid for separately. For dressing for a ball or party a first rate hair-dresser charges five dollars a head, and second rate ones two and three dollars Mr. Dibble, who has been a long time engaged in the business of hair dressing and wig making, informs us that he has known hair dressers having been engaged two months before a ball or party. The operation of dressing a head takes from one to two hours, and if it be a bride's hair it sometimes takes longer. The arrangement of the flowers as well as the dressing of the hair, requires a great deal of artistic skill and taste; the style must be adapted to the expression and complexion of the countenance, as well as to the occasion. Four years is generally the term of apprenticeship for hair dressing and wig making combined. Formerly, the barber understood both these branches, but they have latterly been separated, and at present there are very few barbers who, in addition to their own business, understand the making of wigs. A hair dresser has no affinity with a barber, does not like to have himself classed in the same category, and considers his own peculiar occupation superior in every respect to the shaving business.

#### The Crystal Palace Affair.—The other Side.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR—In your police report of Sunday last, an article was published under the caption of "Trouble at the Crystal Palace," which reflects very discreditably upon Mr. Marshall, one of the principal contractors. I would therefore beg, through the source of your columns, and with due respect to all parties, to place the subject in a less exaggerated light.

Mr. Marshall had, on Saturday morning, passed through the gate several times, sufficient in number to render himself known to the policemen on duty, and on this occasion had merely crossed the street to examine some iron materials which were to be conveyed into the Palace yard by his laborers. When they had arrived at the gate, Mr. M. was quite unceremoniously stopped by the policeman, who, without first exhibiting his ticket. This he very respectfully declined doing, as he had presented his ticket several times previously, and they should have known him from the frequency of his passing, and that he had a perfect and unquestionable right to pass cannot be disputed. Finding that he would not be permitted to pass, he sends for his partner, Mr. Noe, who on arriving bids Mr. Marshall to enter. On attempting to do so, he is seized by the policeman, who, without first exhibiting his ticket, this he very respectfully declined doing, as he had presented his ticket several times previously, and they should have known him from the frequency of his passing, and that he had a perfect and unquestionable right to pass cannot be disputed. Finding that he would not be permitted to pass, he sends for his partner, Mr. Noe, who on arriving bids Mr. Marshall to enter. On attempting to do so, he is seized by the policeman, who, without first exhibiting his ticket, this he very respectfully declined doing, as he had presented his ticket several times previously, and they should have known him from the frequency of his passing, and that he had a perfect and unquestionable right to pass cannot be disputed. Finding that he would not be permitted to pass, he sends for his partner, Mr. Noe, who on arriving bids Mr. Marshall to enter. 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